

REMARKS

Claim Status

After entry of the above amendments, claims 1-10, 13-33, 37-59, 63-67, 69-83, 87-91, 93-100 will be pending in the application. This paper proposes to amend claims 1, 6, 18, 20, 27, 28, 42-47, 49-51, 57, 58, 70, 77, and 94; and to cancel claims 12, 36, 62, 68, 86, and 92 without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1, 18, 27, 42, 51, and 77 will be the independent claims of the application.

Statutory Double Patenting Rejection

In response to the non-statutory double patenting rejection, a terminal disclaimer is filed with this paper, in order to expedite the prosecution of this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant and the undersigned representative gratefully acknowledge the notification of allowable subject matter in claims 12, 18, 36, 42, and 68.

Independent claim 1 has been amended generally to recite the limitations of former claim 12, and claim 12 has been cancelled.

Claim 18 has been amended generally to recite most of the structure of the base claim 1.

Independent claim 27 has been amended generally to recite the limitations of former claim 36, and claim 36 has been cancelled.

Claim 42 has been amended generally to recite most of the structure of the base claim 27.

Independent claim 51 has been amended generally to recite the limitations of former claims 62 and 68, and claims 62 and 68 have been cancelled.

Independent claim 77 has been amended to recite the steps of *automatically generating a natural language question for use in obtaining information from a chat room or an on-line bulletin board; transmitting the natural language question to the chat room or the on-line bulletin board; and in response to the question, obtaining the information regarding at least one of a product, products, a service, and services from the chat room or the on-line bulletin board.*

We note that the independent claims do not recite limitations relating to “foreign language translation.” The independent claims, however, now recite (paraphrasing) automatic generation of a natural language question and transmittal of the question to a chat room and/or an on-line bulletin board. We understand that the Examiner has found patentability over the prior art based on the recitations of such limitations.

At least for the above reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that all independent claims are patentable.

Dependent claims should be patentable at least for the same reason as their respective base claims and intervening claims, if any.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that all pending claims are allowable. To discuss any matter pertaining to the instant application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (858) 720-9431.

Having made an effort to bring the application in condition for allowance, a notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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